

**COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE  
IDENTIFICATION OF ANTIBIOTICS THAT ARE NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO  
ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE**

5

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Compositions and methods are provided to identify functional mutant ribosomes that may be used as drug targets. The compositions and methods allow isolation and analysis of mutations that would normally be lethal and allow direct selection of rRNA mutants with predetermined levels of ribosome function. The compositions and methods  
10 of the present invention may be used to identify antibiotics to treat a large number of human pathogens through the use of genetically engineered rRNA genes from a variety of species. The invention further provides novel plasmid constructs to be used in the methods of the invention.